

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~4~~, wherein said linear n-alkanols ~~are linear, possibly branched, hydrocarbon chain n-alkanols in which have~~ the OH group is in the 1-position (~~primary alcohol~~) or in the 2-position (~~secondary alcohol~~).
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~4~~, wherein said mammal has pathologies related to dysfunction of said CFTR ~~are~~ selected from the group consisting of cystic fibrosis, atypical cystic fibrosis, and obstructions of the bronchial tracts or of the digestive tracts.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~4~~, wherein said n-alkanols are provided in a form suitable for intranasal or buccal administration.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said n-alkanols are provided in a liquid form, for administration in the form of an aerosol or in the form of a nebulized material.
7. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said n-alkanols are combined with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier appropriate for said intranasal or buccal administration.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 9 ~~±~~, wherein said n-alkanols are administered at a concentration of between 0.001% and 0.1% (v/v), ~~corresponding to a value of between~~ 10 and 1000 ppm (parts per million), namely i.e. from 10 mg/kg to 1 g/kg.

9. (New) A method for partially or fully activating cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator channels (CFTR) in cell membranes of a mammal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said mammal at least one linear n-alkanol selected from the group consisting of C<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>10</sub> and mixtures thereof in an amount sufficient to generate in the vicinity of said cell membranes a concentration of said n-alkanol sufficient to partially or fully open said CFTR in said cell membranes.